

may be done for us. GOD helps them that help themselves^ as Poor RICHARD says in his Almanac of 1733*

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It would be thought a hard Government that should tax Its people One-tenth part of their TIME, to be employed in its service. But Idleness taxes many of us much more; if we reckon all that is spent in absolute sloth, or doing of nothing; with that which is spent in idle employments or amusements that amount to nothing. Sloth, by bringing on diseases, absolutely shortens life. Sloth ^ like Rust, consumes faster than Labour wears ; while the used key is always bnght, as Poor RICHARD says. But dost thou love Life ? Then do not squander time! for that's the stuff Life is made of, as Poor RICHARD says.

How much more than is necessary do we spend in sleep ? forgetting that the sleeping fox catches no poultry ; and that there will be sleeping enough in the grave, as Poor RICHARD says. If Time be of all things the most precious, Wasting of Time must be (as Poor RICHARD says) the greatest prodigality; since, as he elsewhere tells us, Lost lime is never found again; and what we call Time enough! always proves little enough. Let us then up and be doing, and doing to the purpose : so, by diligence, shall we do more with less perplexity. Sloth makes all things difficult, but Industry all things easy, as Poor RICHARD says: and He that nseth late, must trot all day ; and shall scarce overtake his business at night. While Laziness travels so slowly, that Poverty soon overtakes him, as we read in Poor RICHARD ; who adds. Drive thy business ! Let not that drive thee! and

Early to bed, and early to rise.
Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise,

So what signifies wishing and hoping for better Times! We may make these Times better, if we bestir ourselves ! Industry need not wish I as Poor RICHARD says; and He that lives on Hope, will die fast^ng. There arc no gains without pains. Then Help hands / for I have no lands; or if I have, they are smartly taxed. And as Poor RICHARD likewise observes^ He that hath a Trade, hath an Estate, and He that hath a Calling, hath an Office of Profit and Honour : but, then, the Trade